

QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

Question Number	Question asked by Councillor:	Subject
CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES, SAFETY and JUSTICE Councillor Hamida Ali		
CQ064-17	Creatura, M	Sunshine Tax
CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMY AND JOBS Councillor Mark Watson		
CQ072-17	Pollard, H	Surrey Street Market

CQ064-17 **from Councillor Mario Creatura**

Councillor Hamida Ali

In CQ054-17 in relation to the Council Sunshine Tax, the Cabinet Member states that 13 businesses have so far surrendered their street trading licences citing the increase in fees as the reason for withdrawing.

Could the Cabinet Member please list these businesses and in doing explain whether she believes their withdrawal indicates a failure of the policy?

The answer also stated that 8 businesses have had enforcement action taken against them as a result of non-compliance. Is the Cabinet Member able to reveal who these businesses are, what the enforcement action was issued for and what the procedure was for enforcement? E.g. were fines issued and if so how much?

Reply

I can confirm that 13 businesses have surrendered their street trading licence and when doing so, indicated it was because of the new fee structure. Some 169 businesses in the borough have maintained their street trading licence. The purpose of the fee review was so that the council was legitimately recouping its expenditure in providing the licensing service. So, in that respect the fee review has been a success. The vast majority of business have decided to continue with paying for street trading licenses. The fact that a small number have decided to cease trading on the street is ultimately a commercial decision for them but the council could not continue subsidising commercial activities, as it had effectively been doing previously. With respect, I do not think it is appropriate to publicly list premises who have made the decision to surrender their licence, as the question asks, as the information was provided to the council in confidence.

I can confirm that eight businesses have had enforcement action taken against them. All were issued with a fixed penalty notice (FPN) for overspreading, which means they were not staying within the area permitted by their licence. An FPN costs £100, reduced to £60 if the recipient pays within 14 days. Where the recipient of an FPN is a sole trader, we would not be permitted to disclose their details due to data protection requirements. Where the recipient is not a sole trader, there is a risk that disclosing their details may prejudice the commercial interests of the particular businesses.

CQ072-17 **from Councillor Helen Pollard**

Councillor Mark Watson

Please tell me how many traders there have been over the last few years in Surrey Street Market. Please provide the following data for the month of July 2014, July 2015, July 2016, June 2017. Please provide the same data for the calendar year of 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 to date.

- The number of permanent traders
- The number of casual traders
- Any other traders

Reply

Year	No. of Permanent Traders	No. of Casual Traders
2014	29	Monthly average for July was 6 Total applications over the year was 25
2015	29	Monthly average for July was 9 Total applications over the year was 45
2016	29	Monthly average for July was 9 Total applications over the year was 63 (including Sunday market)
2017	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One revoked poor payment• One retired - ill health• One left – career change <p><i>There is a freeze on the sale of fruit and vegetables with a waiting list to encourage the sale of other commodities.</i></p>	Monthly average for June was 8 Total applications over the year to date is 20 - increasing weekly